



NEWS RELEASE

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Man Sentenced to Prison for 2011 Pomona Killing

A 38-year-old man was sentenced yesterday to 31 years in state prison for a fatal drive-by shooting in Pomona, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Ruben Vargas pleaded no contest to four felonies: voluntary manslaughter, attempted murder, assault with a semiautomatic firearm and assault with a deadly weapon with a firearm in case KA093110. The defendant also admitted gun and gang allegations.

Deputy District Attorney Thuy Pham, who prosecuted the case, said on Jan. 4, 2011, Lina Romero, 31, was inside a residence when she was hit by gunfire coming from outside. She was taken to a medical center for treatment and died a month later.

Another woman also was in the home during the shooting but was unhurt, the prosecutor said.

Nine days later, Andrew Alvarez, 25, was arrested in connection with the killing. He pleaded no contest to voluntary manslaughter and assault with a deadly weapon and was sentenced to 25 years and four months in state prison.

Although authorities believed Vargas also was involved in the fatal shooting, he fled the United States to Mexico shortly after the killing. Officials ultimately located him and he was brought back to the U.S. on Dec. 17, 2013.

The case was investigated by the Pomona Police Department.

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About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice

for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Last year, the [Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office](#) prosecuted more than 71,000 felony defendants and nearly 112,000 misdemeanor defendants.